GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3833
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016
List of Essential Medicines
Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has decided to include 98 medicines under the List of Essential Medicines and if so, the details of such drugs;
(b) the total number of drugs likely to come under the list with the above inclusion; and
(c) the steps being taken by the Government against the pharma companies tampering with price and other things and for regulating drug prices in the retail market?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b): The revision of the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) is done by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. NLEM 2015 was notified vide Ministry of Health and Family Welfare notification dated 27th December, 2015. Department of Pharmaceuticals vide notification dated 10.03.2016 has amended Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013 substituting NLEM, 2011 with NLEM, 2015. At present 790 scheduled formulations are under price control (NLEM 2011 and NLEM 2015).
(c): National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) issues notices for overcharging as and when price violation cases come to notice based on the reports received from State Drug Controllers or based on samples purchased from market or complaints received from NGOs / individuals or based on data. Action for recovery of the overcharged amount is taken as per the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) and Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). The cases are also referred to District Collector for recovery of the overcharged amount as arrears of land revenue under Section-3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955.